

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. Claims 1-23 were pending prior to the Final Office Action. Claims 21-23 have been cancelled through this Reply. Therefore, claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 1, 13 and 17 are independent.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant appreciates that claims 21-23 are indicated to be allowable. The features of the allowable claims have been incorporated into independent claims 1, 13 and 17, respectively.

§103 REJECTION – TADA, SUZUKI

Claims 1-6, 8, 11-12, 17 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Tada (USP 4,746,993) in view of Suzuki et al. (USP 6,141,043). Applicant respectfully traverses.

As indicated above, independent claims 1, and 17 are amended to incorporate the features of the allowable claims 21 and 23, respectively. Therefore, independent claims 1 and 17 are distinguishable over the cited references. Claims 2-6, 8, 11-12, and 20 depend from independent claims 1 or

17, directly or indirectly. Therefore, for at least the reasons stated with respect to independent claims 1 and 17, these dependent claims are also distinguishable over the cited references.

Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-6, 8, 11-12, 17 and 20 based on Tada and Suzuki be withdrawn.

§103 REJECTION – TADA, SUZUKI, OHMORI

Claims 13 and 15-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Tada in view of Suzuki, and further in view of Ohmori (USP 5,790,193). Applicant respectfully traverses.

Independent claim 13 is amended to include the features of the allowable claim 22. Therefore, claim 13 is distinguishable over the combination of Tada, Suzuki and Ohmori. Claims 15 and 16 depend from independent claim 13. Therefore, for at least the reasons stated above with respect to independent claim 13, these dependent claims are also distinguishable over the cited references.

Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 13 and 15-16 based on Tada, Suzuki and Ohmori be withdrawn.

§103 REJECTION – TADA, SUZUKI, OHMORI, COCCA

Claim 14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Tada in view of Suzuki et al., and Ohmori, and further in view of Cocca (USP 5,387,955). Applicant respectfully traverses. It is noted that claim 14 depends from independent claim 13, and it has been demonstrated above that claim 13 is now allowable. Therefore, for at least due to the dependency thereon, claim 14 is now also allowable.

Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 14 based on Tada, Suzuki, Ohmori and Cocca be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

All objections and rejections raised in the Final Office Action having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Hyung Sohn (Reg. No. 44,346), to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

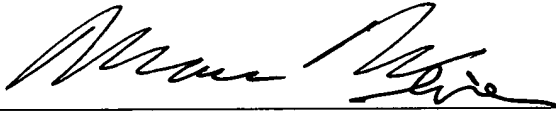
If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit

Docket No. 3562-0114P
Appl. No.: 09/826,863
Art Unit: 2615
Reply filed September 13, 2005
Page 12 of 12

Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 

Marc S. Weiner
Reg. No. 32,181
P. O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000


MSW/HNS/ags